

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1979 - 1980

8 MAY 1979

DOCUMENT 164/79

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr W. W. HAMILTON, Mr BROWN,  
Mr ELLIS, Mr DALYELL, Lord BRUCE,  
Lord CASTLE, Mr FITCH,  
Mr EDWARDS, Lord ARDWICK, Lady FISHER  
and Lord KENNET

with request for urgent debate  
pursuant to Rule 14 of the  
Rules of Procedure

on a /single seat for the executive and  
parliamentary institutions of the Community

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The European Parliament,

- having regard to Articles 142(1) and 216 of the EEC Treaty,
  - having regard to Articles 1 and 4 of the Decision of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States on the provisional location of certain institutions and departments of the Communities of 8 April 1965<sup>1</sup>,
  - having regard to the election of the European Parliament in June 1979 by direct universal suffrage,
1. Is firmly of the opinion that the present requirement that it should carry out its functions in three places of work is against the interests of the citizens of the Community, of the European Parliament, and of its members and staff;
  2. Considers that the exercise of its budgetary powers in controlling and scrutinising the Community Budget as a whole could most effectively be carried out if its place of work were to be the same as that of the Council and of the Commission;
  3. Stresses the importance after direct elections for close contacts to be established between Members of the Parliament and its Committees with Community-wide interest groups, many of whom have offices in Brussels;
  4. Emphasises the importance for Parliament, in particular in view of the forthcoming European elections of June 1979, of close and continuous contacts with the media in order that its proceedings may be made known to the greatest possible number of the European electors;
  5. States its conviction that full publicity for its proceedings can only be achieved if it meets in plenary session at the place of work of the Council and Commission;
  6. Therefore calls upon the Governments of the Member States to decide not later than the end of 1979 that the provisional place of work of the European Parliament shall be Brussels, and to place no financial or other impediment in the way of the implementation by Parliament of this decision;
  7. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Governments and Parliaments of the Member States and to the Council and Commission of the European Communities.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ No. 152, 13.7.67, page 18

Reasons supporting the request for urgent debate

The question of a single place of work for the executive and Parliamentary institutions of the European Community has been raised in oral questions at Question Time for several years. It is also a matter of considerable interest to the people of the European Community, who will be called upon in four weeks' time directly to elect Members of the European Parliament. It is essential therefore that the present European Parliament should express its view during this part-session so as to guide the electors and the candidates, and also the directly-elected European Parliament as a whole.